

# Contents

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS	ix
Introduction <i>Henk W. van Os</i>	i
1. Altars, Altarpieces, and Art History: Legislation and Usage <i>Julian Gardner</i>	5
2. The Creation, Meaning, and Audience of the Early Sienese Polyptych: Evidence from the Friars <i>Joanna Cannon</i>	41
3. Sienese Quattrocento Painting in the Service of Spiritual Propaganda <i>Gaudenz Freuler</i>	81
4. The Social Status of Patronage and its Impact on Pictorial Language in Fifteenth-Century Siena <i>Max Seidel</i>	119
5. The Bellini, the Vivarini, and the Beginnings of the Renaissance Altarpiece in Venice <i>Peter Humfrey</i>	139
6. Hangings, Curtains, and Shutters of Sixteenth-Century Lombard Altarpieces <i>Alessandro Nova</i>	177
7. Commission and Design in Central Italian Altarpieces c.1450–1550 <i>Patricia Rubin</i>	201

8. The Altarpiece in the Bassano Workshop: Patronage, Contracts, and Iconography <i>Michelangelo Muraro</i>	231
LIST OF PLATES	259
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR PLATES	267
BIBLIOGRAPHY	269
INDEX	288